

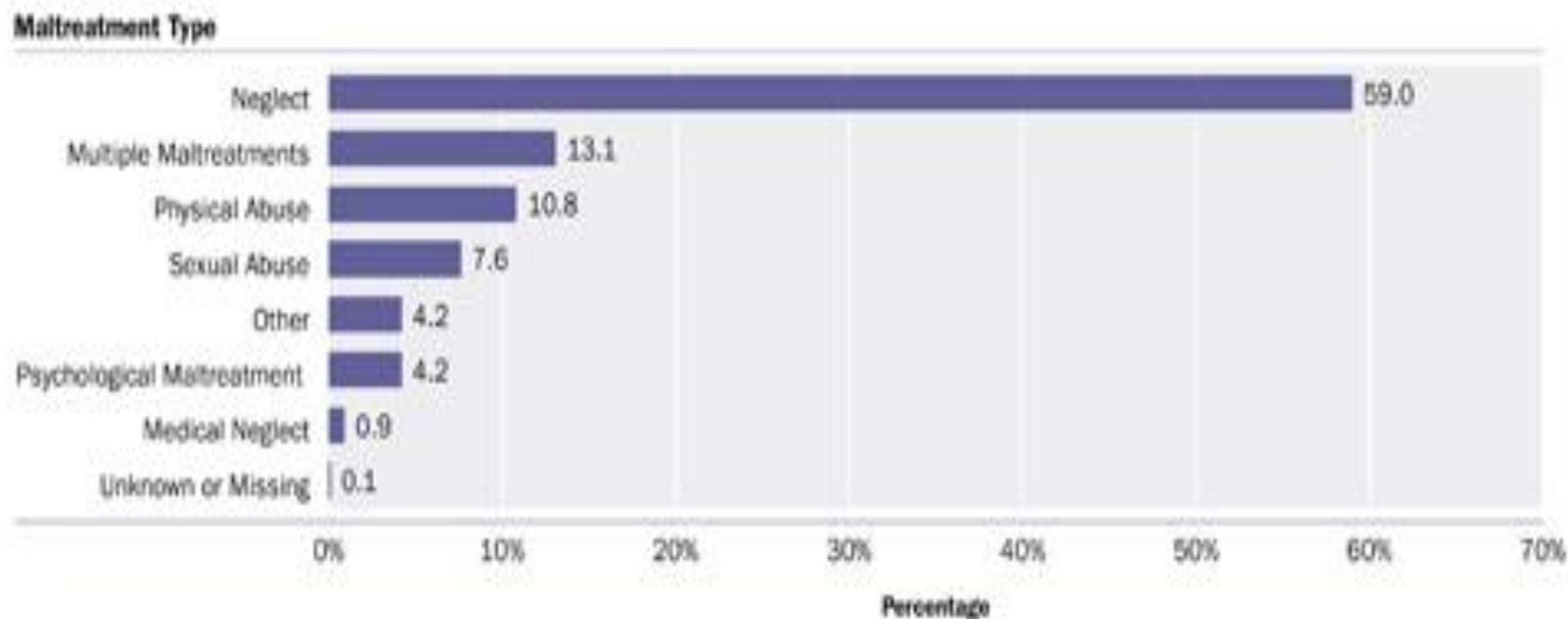
# Child Abuse and Neglect National Overview

Sally Fogerty

## Scope of the Problem, 2007

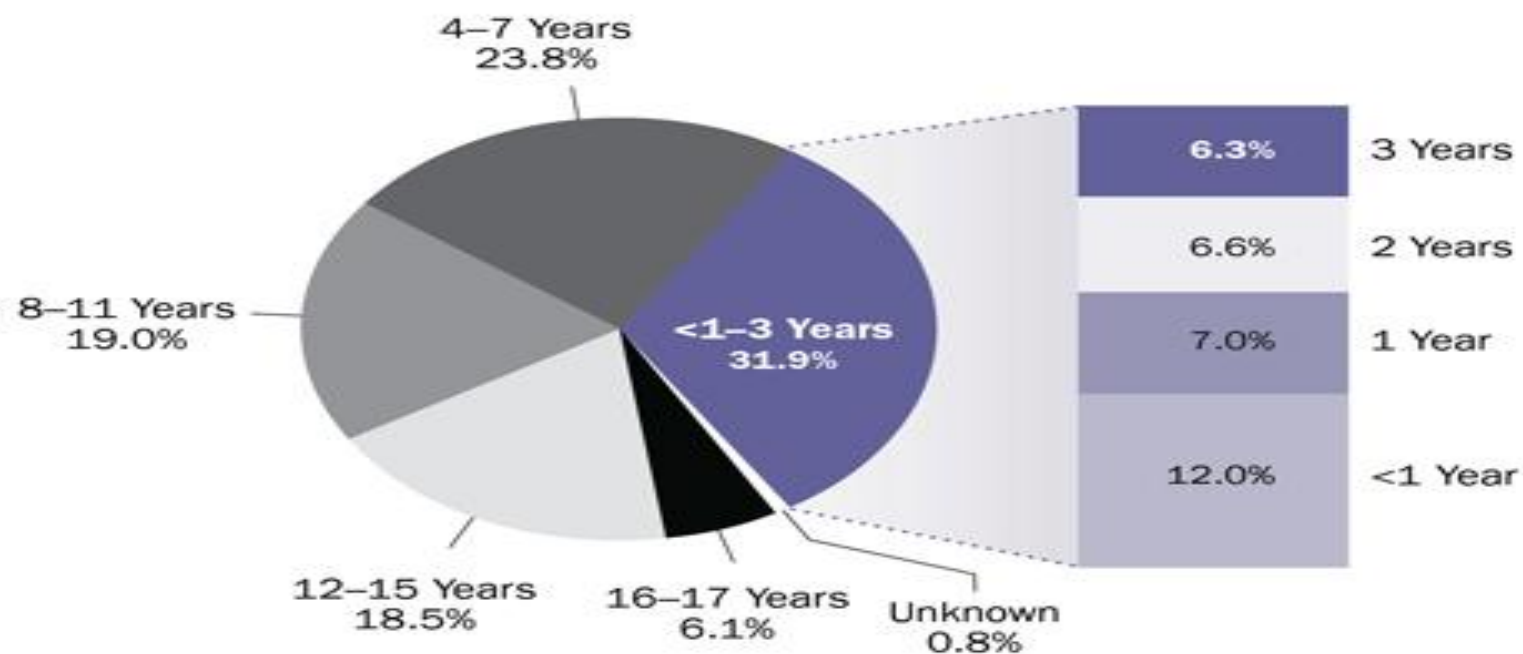
- 3.5 million children investigated for abuse or neglect
- 794,000 identified as abused or neglected
- 1,500 died of abuse or neglect – 75% deaths <4
- Highest rate of victimization 0-1 year (21.9 per 1000)
- Increase from 2003 – 2007 except for 2005
- Significant underreporting

**Figure 3-4 Victims by Maltreatment Type, 2007**



*Based on data from 3-8.*

**Figure 3–2 Age by Percentage of Victims, 2007**



*Based on data from table 3–6.*

# Definition

- Varies from state to state.
- Varies by social construct
- Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), 2003
  - Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker, which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

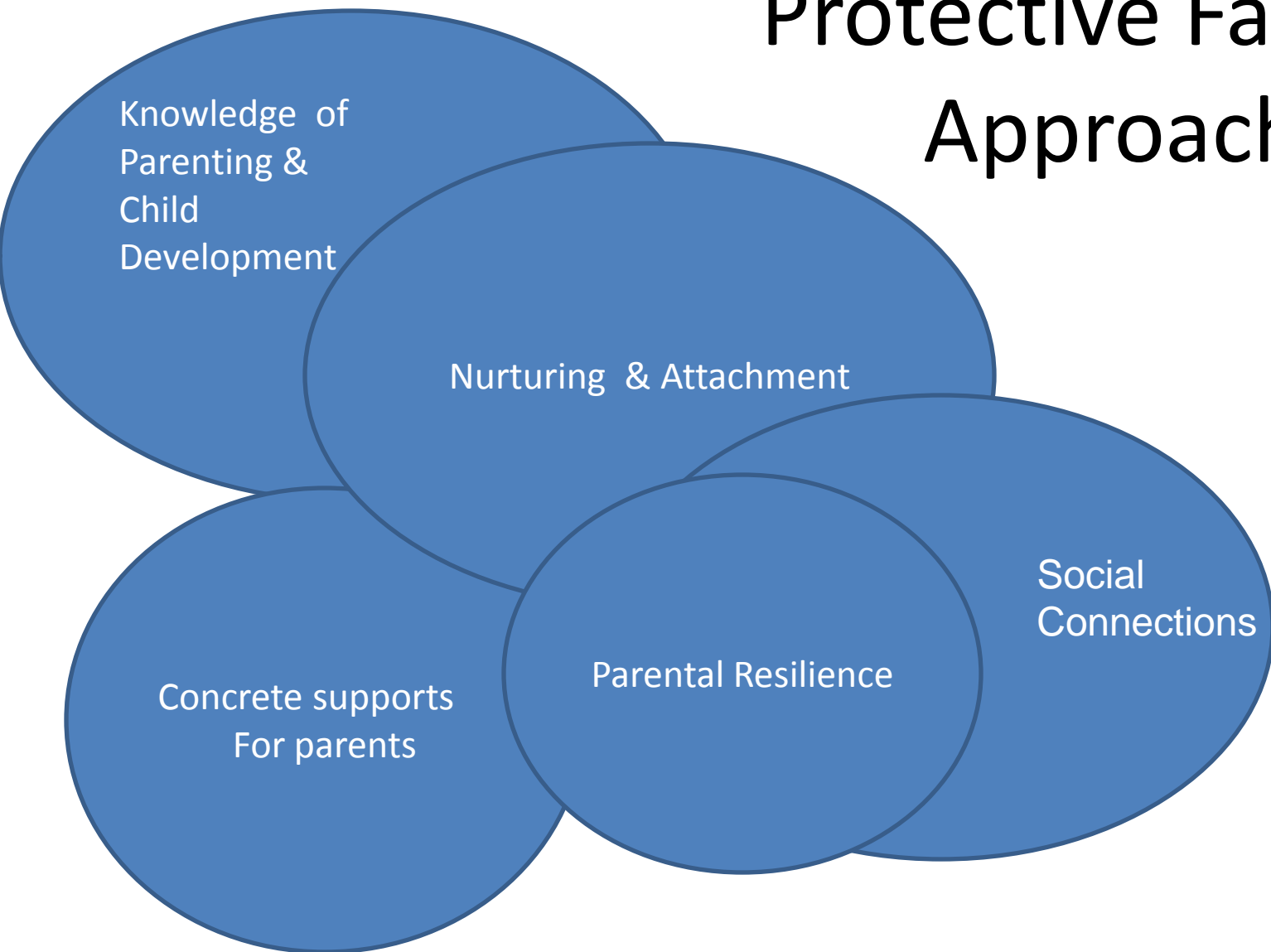
# Continuum

- Abuse from:
  - non-criminal – inflicted but no intent/negligence
  - Criminal – intentional, knowingly, criminal negligence
- Neglect from
  - unintentional injury or death – momentary lapse
  - Poor or inadequate parenting
  - Failure to provide, protect or supervise
  - Intentional negligence

# CDC 5 Categories

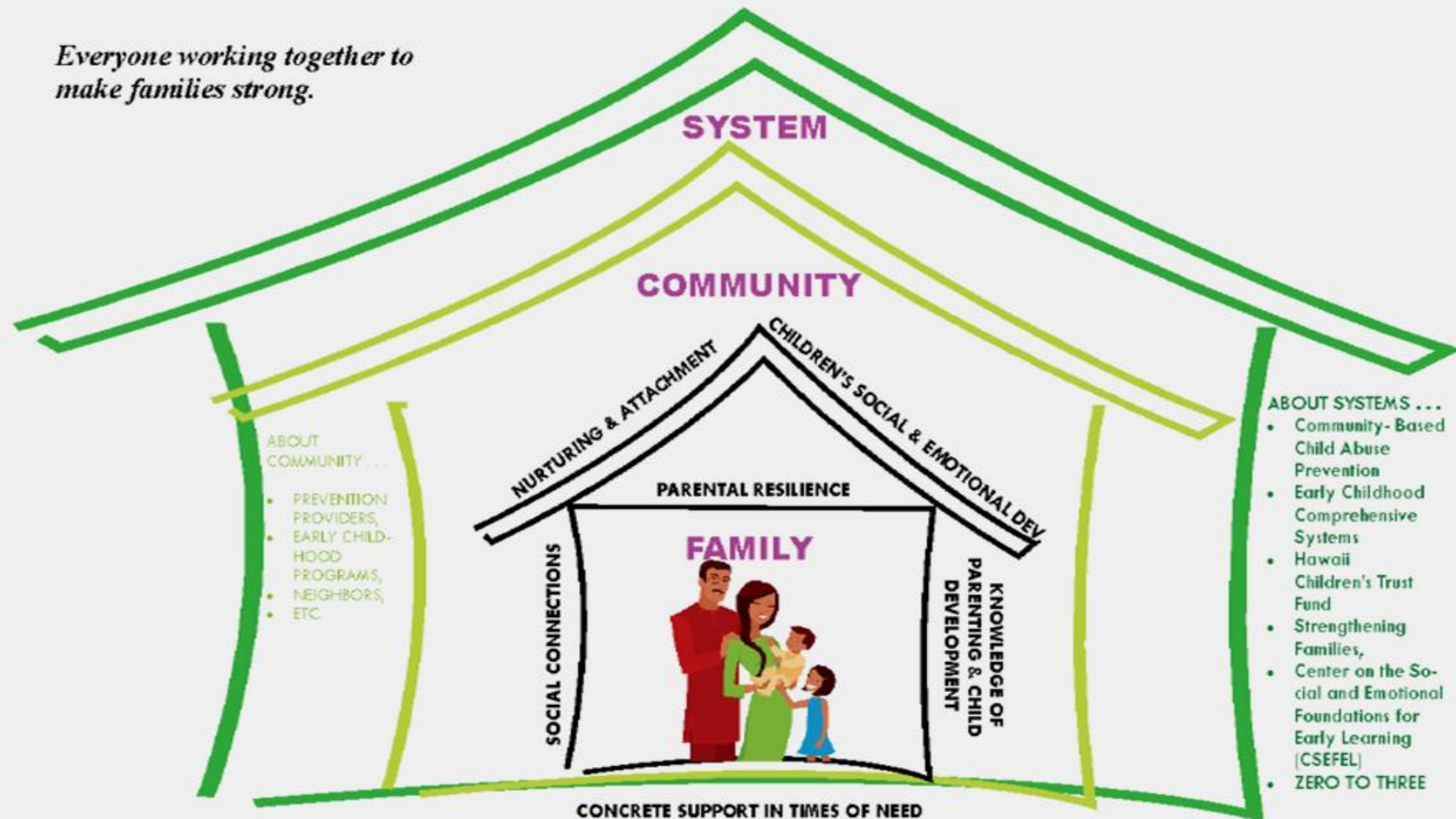
- Physical abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Psychological Abuse
- Neglect
- Failure to Supervise

# Protective Factors Approach





*Everyone working together to  
make families strong.*



# Families most at risk:

- Young children
- Race
- Poverty
- Parental drug involvement
- Single Parenting
- If all 5 at greater risk than in only one

Also -

- Referred but not confirmed

# No Single Risk Factor or set

- Interplay between parent and child, family and environment
- Takes place all communities and all ages
- No single solution
  - Individual – community
  - Coordination between CPS and other prevention efforts



# Changing Paradigm

- Traditional response focus on identifying, reporting, and reoccurrence
- New framework focusing on strengthening protective factors
  - build family and social networks
  - Increase ability of family to care for children
  - Build on strengths children at different ages
- Moving from individually focused toward community-focused system of shared responsibility

Prevention conceptualized as investing in future outcomes by influencing current behaviors or conditions.

Stagner and Lansing, 2009



# Targeting Multiple Outcomes

1. Promotion of child well-being
  - addressing common parenting challenges
  - strengthening parental competence and confidence
  - improving child adjustment at school entry
2. Change community norms to focus on non-coercive parenting
3. Prevention of children's (early) behavioral and emotional problems

# Recap of the Paradigm

- Population perspective
- Implement multilevel interventions with have multiple benefits (targets)
- Utilize the existing workforce in multiple settings/disciplines
- Efficient use of multi-level interventions
- Continuity of principles and strategies across all levels, media and settings

# Model based on Spectrum of Prevention

- Strengthen individual/family knowledge & skills
- Promote community knowledge and education
- Educate providers
- Foster coalitions & network
- Mobilize communities
- Change organizational practices
- Influence policy and legislation



## Remember:

- Not everyone takes preventive action even if appears to be best interest
  - Failure to grasp benefits
  - Inadequate resources
  - Failure to understand causes
  - Indifference to consequences



# Period of Change

- “Invitation” to reassess
- Stretch to new
- Harness power

